

**Introduced by Senator Correa**

February 24, 2012

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An act to amend Section 65913 of the Government Code, relating to housing.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

SB 1421, as introduced, Correa. Affordable housing.

Existing law restricts a local agency from disapproving an affordable housing development project, as prescribed. With respect to that law, legislative findings and declarations state that there is a severe shortage of affordable housing and that changes in the law, which are designed to, among other things, expedite the local and state residential development process, are needed to encourage the development of new housing.

This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to those legislative findings and declarations.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1     SECTION 1. Section 65913 of the Government Code is
- 2     amended to read:
- 3     65913. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that there exists
- 4     a severe shortage of affordable housing, especially for persons and
- 5     families of low and moderate income, and that there is an
- 6     immediate need to encourage the development of new housing,
- 7     not only through the provision of financial assistance, but also
- 8     through changes in law designed to do all of the following:

1 (1) Expedite the local and state residential development process.

2 (2) ~~Assure~~ *Ensure* that local governments zone sufficient land  
3 at densities high enough for production of affordable housing.

4 (3) ~~Assure~~ *Ensure* that local governments make a diligent effort  
5 through the administration of land use and development controls  
6 and the provision of regulatory concessions and incentives to  
7 significantly reduce housing development costs and thereby  
8 facilitate the development of affordable housing, including housing  
9 for elderly persons and families, as defined by Section 50067 of  
10 the Health and Safety Code.

11 These changes in the law are consistent with the responsibility  
12 of local government to adopt the program required by subdivision  
13 (c) of Section 65583.

14 (b) The Legislature further finds and declares that the costs of  
15 new housing developments have been increased, in part, by the  
16 existing permit process and by existing land use regulations and  
17 that vitally needed housing developments have been halted or  
18 rendered infeasible despite the benefits to the public health, safety,  
19 and welfare of those developments and despite the absence of  
20 adverse environmental impacts. It is, therefore, necessary to enact  
21 this chapter and to amend existing statutes ~~which~~ *that* govern  
22 housing development so as to provide greater encouragement for  
23 local and state governments to approve needed and sound housing  
24 developments.